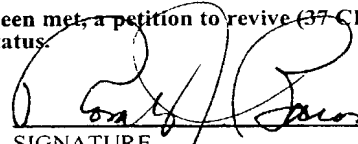


FORM PTO-1390 (Modified) (REV 11-2000)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 294-122 PCT/US	
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371				U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR) 10/069551	
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/NL00/00603		INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE August 30, 2000		PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED August 30, 1999	
TITLE OF INVENTION IMMOBILIZATION OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCES					
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US PFW Aroma Chemicals B.V.					
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information.					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (24) indicated below. 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31). 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)) 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409). 12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210). 					
Items 13 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 14. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 15. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 19. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825. 20. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 21. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail 23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: 					
Copy of the international patent application as published under International Publication Number WO 01/20985 A1					
EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE Date: <u>2-25-02</u> Label No. <u>EL709114335 US</u> I hereby certify that the date indicated above, I deposited this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "EXPRESS MAIL Post Office to Addressee" Service.					
<u>Joan M. Newbert</u> (Print Name)		<u>Joan M. Newbert</u> (Signature)			

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN-SEE 37 CFR 1.101) 107069531		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/NL00/00603		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 294-122 PCT/US	
24. The following fees are submitted:.				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)) :					
<input type="checkbox"/> Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO				\$1040.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO				\$890.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO				\$740.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)				\$710.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)				\$100.00	
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				\$890.00	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).				\$0.00	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total claims	17 - 20 =	0	x \$18 00	\$0.00	
Independent claims	1 - 3 =	0	x \$84 00	\$0.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable)			<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$890.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27). The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2				\$0.00	
SUBTOTAL =				\$890.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).				\$0.00	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$890.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) (check if applicable).			<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$890.00	
				Amount to be: refunded	\$
				charged	\$
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$890.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed					
b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2461 A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:					
Ronald J. Baron, Esq. Hoffmann & Baron, LLP 6900 Jericho Turnpike Syosset, New York 11791 United States of America			 SIGNATURE		
Telephone: 516-822-3550 Facsimile: 516-822-3582			Ronald J. Baron NAME		
			29,281 REGISTRATION NUMBER		
			February 25, 2002 DATE		

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	PFW Aroma Chemicals B.V.	Examiner:	Unassigned
Serial No:	Unassigned	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
Confirmation No:	Unassigned	Docket:	294-122 PCT/US
Filed:	Herewith	Dated:	February 25, 2002
For:	IMMOBILIZATION OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCES		

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Express Mail Certificate:

Date: 2-25-02 Label No: EL709114335US I hereby certify that on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper or fee with the United States Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 25, 2002 Signature: John M. Yundert

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In order to place the present application in condition for examination on the merits Applicant submits the following amendment for entry in the above-identified application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, before line 1, after the title, please insert the following:

This application is the U.S. National Phase of International Application Number PCT/NL00/00603, filed August 30, 2000, which is incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Applicant: PFW Aroma Chemicals B.V.
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On page 3, between lines 2 and 3 insert the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 6, between lines 9 and 10 insert the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 5, and 9-14 to read as follows:

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the liquid phase is emulsified in a liquid and wherein small particles are formed of the immobilized fragrance by evaporating the liquid.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the esterified polysaccharide is an esterified starch, cellulose, alginate, pectin, or a derivative thereof.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide has a degree of substitution (DS) between 0.05 and a DS corresponding to a virtually complete substitution.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein immobilized fragrance is formed into a powder.

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12. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the immobilized fragrance is processed by the use of polymer shaping techniques, such as extrusion, injection molding, pressing or vacuum drawing.

13. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein a physical or chemical modification is performed on the surface of the immobilized fragrance.

14. (Amended) An immobilized fragrance obtainable by a method according to claim 1.

REMARKS

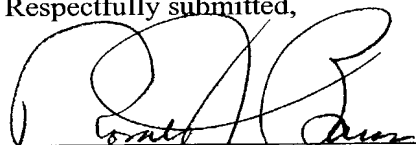
In order to place the present application in condition for examination in the U.S. Patent Office, Applicant has amended the Specification and Claims to conform to U.S. practice. No new subject matter has been introduced as a result of this Amendment. As a result of the present Amendment, Claims 1-17 remain in the application for purpose of prosecution.

As a result of this Amendment no additional fees should be assessed as a result of filing multiple dependent claims. Therefore, since new matter has not been introduced as a result of this Amendment, entry hereof and examination and favorable consideration are

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respectfully requested. Any questions regarding this matter should be directed to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ronald J. Baron', written over a horizontal line.

Ronald J. Baron
Registration No: 29,281
Attorney for Applicant

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(516) 822-3550
RJB/jmn

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Page 5

VERSION OF AMENDMENT WITH MARKS
TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, before line 1, after the title, please insert the following:

This application is the U.S. National Phase of International Application
Number PCT/NL00/00603, filed August 30, 2000, which is incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 3, between lines 2 and 3 insert the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 6, between lines 9 and 10 insert the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 5 and 9-14 to read as follows:

5. A method according to claim 1 [claims 1-4], wherein the liquid phase is
emulsified in a liquid and wherein small particles are formed of the immobilized fragrance by
evaporating the liquid.

Applicant: PFW Aroma Chemicals B.V.
Serial No: Unassigned
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9. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], wherein the esterfied polysaccharide is an esterified starch, cellulose, alginate, pectin, or a derivative thereof.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], wherein the polysaccharide has a degree of substitution (DS) between 0.05 and a DS corresponding to a virtually complete substitution.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], wherein immobilized fragrance is formed into a powder.

12. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], wherein the immobilized fragrance is processed by the use of polymer shaping techniques, such as extrusion, injection molding, pressing or vacuum drawing.

13. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], wherein a physical or chemical modification is performed on the surface of the immobilized fragrance.

14. (Amended) An immobilized fragrance obtainable by a method according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims].

Title: Immobilization of active substances

This invention relates to a method for immobilizing active substances.

In the literature, different methods are known for the immobilization of active substances. The purpose of the immobilization is normally to achieve a slowed and/or controlled release of the active substance. Substances that are used as carrier material on which the active substances are immobilized vary in nature. To be mentioned by way of example are synthetic polymers and biopolymers such as starch or alginates.

International patent application 89/03674 discloses a method for preparing microspheres by suspending an active substance, such as paramagnetic particles, in a starch solution, crosslinking the starch with a phosphate, and emulsifying the starch in a hydrophobic medium before or after crosslinking.

European patent application 0 930 334 discloses a polysaccharide conjugate which is capable of binding cellulose. The conjugate is based on a polysaccharide, which is not modified, and a particle that carries a perfume. The particle is preferably a porous silica particle, into which the perfume can penetrate through diffusion.

U.S. Patent 5,667,803 relates to the use of a starch acetate as auxiliary substance in pharmaceutical compacted compositions, mainly tablets. Depending on the degree of substitution (DS) of the starch acetate, it is to be used as disintegrator, filler, binder, or agent for regulating the release of an active substance from a tablet. No mention is made of the immobilization of an active substance on a starch acetate. Accordingly, the starch acetate itself cannot, in the application of this publication, be regarded as carrier material.

International patent application 93/02712 discloses a method in which an oil-in-water emulsion of a soluble starch fraction and an organic

solvent, such as dichloromethane, is prepared, to which a dehydrating agent such as an alcohol is added. The thus obtained microspheres are fixed by retrogradation of the starch, which must therefore have a high amylose content.

5 Dutch patent application 10.06444 proposes an improvement of the above-mentioned immobilization methods. According to the method described therein, microparticles consisting of an effective substance in a starch envelope are prepared by preparing an oil-in-water emulsion of the effective substance in a hydrophobic phase and starch in water, including
10 this emulsion in a second hydrophobic phase, and subsequently crosslinking the starch. Optionally, the second hydrophobic phase can eventually be removed. A disadvantage of this method is that with different types of effective substances it has been found that high degrees of loading of the effective substance in the microsphere are not feasible.

15 U.S. Patents 3,455,838 and 5,354,559 and the British Patent Specification all relate to the encapsulation of active substances with water-soluble or shortened starches, which are optionally substituted. The degree of substitution (DS) of the starches described is low in each case. The encapsulation in each case takes place from an emulsion or with the aid of a
20 spray-drying technique. A disadvantage of the systems described is their water-sensitivity. When used in an aqueous medium, for instance during a washing process, the capsules will easily disintegrate, so that the active substance is released into the water at an undesired time.

Surprisingly, it has presently been found that the above-mentioned
25 disadvantages can be obviated by using a specific carrier material for the immobilization of an active substance. The specific carrier material is an esterified polysaccharide. The invention thus relates to a method for immobilizing an active substance, wherein a mixture is prepared of the active substance and a carrier material in a liquid phase, whereafter the

liquid phase is converted to a solid phase, the carrier material being an esterified polysaccharide.

According to the invention, highly stable systems are obtained. This is understood to mean that it is accomplished that an active substance which is immobilized according to the invention is substantially not released under undesired conditions and is substantially released only under desired conditions. Thus, according to the invention, a particularly favorable slowed-release profile can be set. This is also understood to mean that through the immobilization the active substance is protected, so that the chance of breakdown of the active substance through physical or chemical influences is reduced considerably. Thus, an active substance immobilized according to the invention will have a prolonged shelf life. Further, according to the invention, it has been found possible to load a carrier material with very large amounts of active substance.

Further, it is a great advantage of the manner of immobilization according to the invention that it can be effected very simply. Virtually no (complex) operations need to be performed to obtain the stable system referred to.

As used in this text, the term "immobilized active substance" refers to a complex of an active substance and a carrier material.

As said, the carrier material that is used according to the invention is an esterified polysaccharide. Examples of suitable polysaccharides are starch, cellulose, alginates, pectin and combinations thereof. Preferably, the polysaccharide is starch or cellulose, starch being particularly preferred. With esterified starch, very high loading degrees are feasible. In principle, the starch can originate from any natural starch source. Suitable, among others, is starch coming from potatoes, corn, wheat, and tapioca. Preferably, granular starch is used. Optionally, the starch can be wholly or partly gelatinized.

To obtain the desired esterified polysaccharide, it is possible to start from the native polysaccharide or from a derivative thereof. Suitable derivatives in this connection are, for instance, (partially) hydrolyzed polysaccharides, oxidized polysaccharides, ionized (both cationic and anionic) and etherified polysaccharides. Incidentally, it will be clear that the reaction that is performed starting from native polysaccharide to obtain any one of the derivatives mentioned can also be performed with the polysaccharide already esterified.

The esterified polysaccharide is preferably biodegradable. In the context of the invention, a biodegradable material is understood to mean a material that has the property of being broken down within a relatively short time into substances that are preferably soluble in water and non-toxic. The breakdown can take place *inter alia* through hydrolytic cleavage, under the influence of light, air, water and/or microorganisms occurring in nature.

The esterification proper can be carried out in any known manner. The polysaccharide can, for instance, be subjected to a reaction with an acid anhydride, which provides the desired ester group, in aqueous, slightly alkaline medium. Examples of suitable esterification reactions are to be found in R.L. Whistler, E.F. Paschall, "Starch Chemistry and Technology", vol. 1 & 2 (1965), Academic Press Inc. The esterification is preferably carried out so as to yield a degree of substitution (DS) at which the esterified polysaccharide is not soluble or poorly soluble in water. In view of this criterion, the desired degree of substitution depends on the nature of the ester group. When the ester group is relatively non-polar, the value of the degree of substitution can be between 0.05 and a DS corresponding to a complete substitution, and preferably, in particular, between 0.1 and 2.7. In the case of a less non-polar ester group, such as an acetate group, the degree of substitution is preferably slightly higher, viz. between 0.3 and 3, preferably between 0.3 and 2.7. It has been found that the release rate of

hydrophilic active substances is higher at a relatively high DS, while the release rate of hydrophobic active substances is higher at a relatively low DS.

Suitable ester groups that can be introduced are *inter alia* acetate groups, propionate groups, butyrate groups, alkyl succinate groups, in which the alkyl group contains from 1 to 16 carbon atoms, benzoate groups, and ester groups which are derived from carboxylic acids having from 1 to 18 carbon atoms, such as saturated and monounsaturated or polyunsaturated fatty acids. Preferably, an acetate ester of a polysaccharide is used, because an active substance can be immobilized with it in a particularly stable manner.

The active substance which is immobilized according to the invention can be selected from *inter alia* medicines (for instance hormones, antiinflammatory agents, insulin, chemotherapeutics, antibiotics, vaccines and the like), plant protection agents (such as atachloride), paramagnetic substances, catalysts, organic reactants, pheromones, lures, cosmetic actives, washing active substances, disinfectants, fabric conditioning actives, hair conditioning actives, colorants, fragrance, flavor, and nutrients (for instance vitamins, fats, proteins, peptides, etc.). Naturally, combinations of the active substances mentioned can be immobilized. Preferably, an active substance is used which is soluble or dispersible in a hydrophobic phase.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the active substance is an odorous substance or fragrance. In the context of the invention, fragrance is understood to mean a compound which releases a particular desired odor. Fragrance is also understood to mean a mixture of compounds which is so composed that the odors of the different components of the mixture jointly release a pleasant or desired odor. Examples of compounds that can be used, alone or in combination, as fragrance are natural oils, vegetable and animal extracts, synthetic oils, alcohols, aldehydes, ketones,

esters, lactones, ethers, hydrocarbons, nitriles and other classes of chemical compounds. Fragrance can be used to impart to the environment, or other compounds or compositions, a modified, different or enhanced odor.

By immobilizing a fragrance in accordance with the invention, a highly favorable release pattern of the desired odor is accomplished. Additionally, by virtue of the high loading degrees that are feasible, a more intense or longer release pattern than before can be accomplished. Moreover, it has been found that the shelf life of fragrances is greatly extended by immobilizing them according to the invention.

In order to immobilize the active substance on the carrier material, a homogeneous mixture of the active substance and the carrier material in a liquid phase is formed. This can be done in different ways.

Depending on the nature of the carrier material and the active substance, by heating a mixture of the two, a liquid phase can be formed. In the liquid phase, a very homogeneous mixture can be obtained, for instance by stirring. Subsequently, by cooling, a solid phase can be formed, in which the active substance is immobilized on the carrier material.

It is also possible to form a solution or dispersion of the carrier material and the active substance in a suitable solvent, so that the liquid phase is formed by the solvent. By evaporating the solvent, the solid phase can be obtained, in which the active substance is immobilized on the carrier material. Suitable solvents can be obtained depending on the nature of the carrier material and the active substance. Preferably, the solvent has a relatively low boiling point. Examples of solvents that can be used are acetone, diethyl ether, dichloromethane, ethanol, methanol and isopropanol.

Incidentally, it is also possible to combine the two possibilities and to prepare a melt of the carrier material and the active substance in the presence of a small amount of a solvent, such as the solvents mentioned earlier.

In a preferred embodiment, small particles, such as microspheres, of immobilized active substance can be prepared by making use of the solvent evaporation method, known per se. It involves the preparation of an emulsion of the above-mentioned liquid phase. The additional liquid that is
5 needed for that purpose is preferably water, so that an oil-in-water emulsion is obtained. If desired, a suitable emulsifier, for instance polyethylene glycol, can be used. This emulsion is subsequently dried, whereby the intended particles are formed. These can be isolated by, for instance, centrifugation.

10 In addition, it is possible to make use of the so-called double-emulsion technology as described in Dutch patent application 10.06444. This involves encapsulation of an active substance by preparing an oil-in-water emulsion of the active substance in a first hydrophobic phase and a solution or suspension of the carrier material in an aqueous starch dispersion or
15 solution, which oil-in-water emulsion is subsequently incorporated in a second hydrophobic phase. When this technology is used in the context of the present invention, the active substance is included together with the carrier material in the first hydrophobic phase. As a result, it is possible to set the viscosity of this first hydrophobic phase, which makes the
20 encapsulation simpler. Suitable materials for use as first and second hydrophobic phase can be simply found by one skilled in the art on the basis of the Dutch patent application mentioned in combination with his own expert knowledge.

25 According to another embodiment, a gaseous active substance is immobilized on the above-described carrier material. In order to achieve this, the carrier material can be employed in a liquid phase. This phase can be obtained by heating the carrier material or by dissolving or dispersing it in a suitable solvent. If desired, after immobilization of the gaseous active substance, the liquid phase can be converted to a solid phase by cooling or

removing the solvent. It is also possible to immobilize the gaseous active substance by contacting it with the carrier material in solid form.

According to the invention, it has been found possible to absorb active substances, in particular odorous substances. It has been found that
5 the present carrier material is highly suitable for capturing odorous substances. Thus, for instance, fabric that has an unpleasant smell can be treated with the carrier material, as described above, so that the odorous substance spreading the undesired odor is immobilized on the carrier material. What is thus achieved is that the odor is reduced, at least is less
10 perceptible. The odorous substance that is captured can be in the solid, liquid or gaseous phase. It has been found that when the odorous substance is in the gaseous form, it can be captured by the carrier material in solid form. In addition, the carrier material can be used in a liquid phase to absorb the odorous substance. After optional drying or cooling, the solid,
15 immobilized active substance can be simply removed. Thus, the invention also relates to the use of an esterified polysaccharide for fixing or immobilizing an active substance, the active substance being preferably an odorous substance.

This embodiment of the invention can be suitably used for removing
20 numerous unpleasant odors, for instance caused by body fluids, (armpit) deodorants, personal care products, such as (incontinence) diapers, sanitary napkins, panty-liners, tissues, (paper) napkins or towels, and toilet paper, air fresheners, space deodorants, cat litter. In a preferred embodiment, a product, such as (incontinence) diapers, sanitary napkins, panty-liners,
25 tissues, paper napkins or towels, toilet paper or cat litter, can be provided with the carrier material according to the invention, so that in use the products spread less unpleasant odors.

The degree of loading that can be achieved according to the invention is partly dependent on the nature of the carrier material, the active
30 substance and the application. Mostly, loading will be between 0.1 and 99%

by weight, in particular between 1 and 50% by weight, based on the total weight of dry matter of the carrier material.

If desired, the solid, immobilized active substance, which may or may not be modified as described above, can be processed to form a powder, for instance by grinding. The particle size of the powder can be selected depending on the intended application of the immobilized active substance. It is also possible to use the immobilized active substance in larger forms. Such forms can be obtained by the use of conventional polymer shaping techniques such as extrusion, including film and foil extrusion, injection molding, pressing or vacuum drawing.

In order to influence the processability and applicability of the immobilized active substance, a chemical or physical modification can be performed on the surface of the carrier material. Examples of suitable modifications are partial hydrolysis of the carrier material, crosslinking of the carrier material and ionization of the carrier material, and combinations thereof. It will be clear to one skilled in the art that a variety of modifications known per se are eligible under given circumstances. Preferably, only a part of the carrier material, preferably less than 5% by weight, more preferably less than 1% by weight, of the total amount of carrier material is modified.

Partial hydrolysis of the carrier material leads to the immobilized active substance acquiring a more hydrophilic character, which may be desirable when applications in aqueous medium are contemplated. The hydrolysis can be carried out, for instance, by suspending particles of the carrier material in water. Optionally, a small amount (0.1 - 2% by weight, based on the weight of the particles) of surfactant, such as sodium dodecylsulfate or an alkyl (poly)glucoside can be added. If desired, the hydrolysis can be accelerated by changing the pH of the suspension or raising the temperature. Preferably, work is done at a pH between 8 and 13 and a temperature between 20 and 40°C.

Crosslinking of the surface of the particles can be carried out to make the immobilized active substance less soluble in water. This may be desired after a partial hydrolysis or other modification has been carried out. When crosslinking is used in combination with a partial hydrolysis, an immobilized active substance is obtained which does not dissolve in water but can be very well incorporated in water, for instance in the form of a suspension. In addition, crosslinking leads to the active substance being retained particularly well by the carrier material. Crosslinking can be carried out by a reaction with a suitable crosslinking agent, such as trisodium phosphate or epichlorohydrin. To that end, for instance, a suspension is prepared of the particles in water, optionally in the presence of a small amount (0.1 - 2% by weight, based on the weight of the particles) of surfactant, such as sodium dodecylsulfate or an alkyl (poly)glucoside, to which the crosslinking agent is added in an amount of 0.5-3% by weight, based on the weight of the particles. Preferably, a small amount (0.5 - 5% by weight, based on the weight of the particles) of a base, for instance NaOH or KOH, is added. Other examples of possible crosslinking reactions are described in R.L. Whistler, E.F. Paschall, "Starch Chemistry and Technology", vol. 1 & 2 (1965), Academic Press Inc.

By providing positively or negatively charged groups, the interaction of the immobilized active substance with the environment can be set. What can thus be achieved is, for instance, that the immobilized active substance adheres well to other materials, such as fabric. In addition, the dispersibility of the immobilized active substance can be positively influenced. The provision of positively or negatively charged groups at the surface can in principle be carried out in any known manner for introducing charged groups into a polysaccharide material. Examples of suitable methods are described inter alia in R.L. Whistler, E.F. Paschall, "Starch Chemistry and Technology", vol. 1 & 2 (1965), Academic Press Inc.

Quaternary ammonium groups and carboxyl or phosphate groups are preferred.

The active substance can be released to a target environment by chemical, physical or enzymatic influences. Normally, these influences will (partially) break down or modify the carrier material, such that the active substance is liberated. The active substance can, for instance, be released into the digestive tract under the influence of the prevailing conditions in the various organs (pH, enzymes). Optionally, the sensitivity of carrier material can be adapted by starting from a different esterified polysaccharide derivative. In laundering agents, the release can be promoted by temperature increase or, again, by pH or enzyme influences. On or in cultivated soil or potting soil, the release can be accomplished by hydrolysis or action of salts. In reaction mixtures, the release can also be accomplished by the influence of, for instance, electric current or pH adjustment.

The immobilized active substance can be used in various applications. Examples include washing agents, fabric softeners, cleaning agents (such as cleaners, detergents, disinfectants, washing-up agents, dish-washing agents, rinsing agents, bleaching agents, and toilet cleaners), fabric conditioners, fabric sprays, ironing aids, tumble dryer additions, optical whiteners, odor masking agents, personal care products, fertilizers, foods, flavors, pharmaceutical agents, tissues, cosmetics (such as perfumes, colognes, bath and shower products, shampoos, hair conditioning products, skin care products, sun screens, creams, lotions, aerosols, and soaps), soil improvers, plant protection agents (against fungi, bacteria, insects, mites, nematodes and the like), covering layers or coatings, paints, inks, organic reactants (hydrogen peroxide), catalysis, and diagnostics.

The invention will now be further elucidated in and by the following examples.

Example 1 (immobilization of a fragrance on a carrier material)

- 5 A. Paselli acetate (10 g) is dissolved in a mixture of fragrance (5 g) and acetone (5 g), optionally with heating (50°C). Next, the volatile solvent acetone is removed by heating the material at 80°C. After cooling, a hard brittle material having a fragrance loading of about 33% by weight is obtained. The material is ground, optionally cryogenically, to form a powder.
- 10 B. Paselli acetate (10 g) is dissolved in a mixture of fragrance (5 g) and acetone (5 g), optionally with heating (50°C). Next, a thin film is formed of Paselli acetate/fragrance by pouring the solution onto glass and allowing the volatile solvent acetone to evaporate.
- 15 C. Paselli acetate (10 g) is dissolved or suspended in fragrance (5 g) and heated in a closed reactor at 105°C for 2 hours. After cooling, a hard brittle material having a fragrance loading of about 33% is obtained. The material is ground, optionally cryogenically, to form a powder.
- 20 D. Paselli acetate powder (500 mg) is brought into a saturated atmosphere of fragrance. Depending on the absorption time and the temperature, the loading can be set, see also Fig. 4. The material is ground, optionally cryogenically, to form a powder.
- 25 E. Cellulose acetate (10 g) is dissolved in a mixture of fragrance (5 g) and acetone (5 g), optionally with heating (50°C). Next, the volatile solvent acetone is removed by heating the material at 80°C. After cooling, a hard brittle material having a fragrance loading of about 33% by weight is obtained. The material is ground, optionally cryogenically, to form a powder.

Example 2 (chemical modifications on surface of the immobilized active substance)

- A. A combination of hydrolysis and crosslinking is carried out in water.
5 Paselli acetate/fragrance powder (10 g) is suspended in 50 g water with 20 mg SDS (sodium dodecylsulfate). Next, 0.2-0.4 g NaOH is added and 0.1 g epichlorohydrin. The suspension is stirred at room temperature for 18 hours. The material is subsequently washed and separated by centrifugation.
- 10 B. Anionization: Paselli acetate/fragrance powder (10 g) is suspended in 50 g water with 20 mg SDS (sodium dodecylsulfate). A solution of 0.1 g NaOH in 1 ml water is added, followed by stirring for 18 hours. Next, NaBr (0.1 g), Tempo (20 mg, 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-piperidine-1-oxide) and sodium hypochlorite solution (10g; 4g Cl⁺/100g) are added. The pH
15 of the reaction is held at 10 for 30 minutes. The material is washed and separated by centrifugation.
- C. Anionization: Paselli acetate/fragrance powder (15 g) is suspended in 250 g water with 20 mg SDS (sodium dodecylsulfate). Next, TSTP (trisodium triphosphate; 2.0 g) is added while the pH is held at 12 for 1-2 hours. The
20 material is washed and separated by centrifugation.
- D. Cationization: Paselli acetate/fragrance powder (5 g) is suspended in 50 g water with 10 mg SDS (sodium dodecylsulfate). Next, glycidyltrimethyl-ammonium chloride (GMAC; 0.2 g), epichlorohydrin (0.05 g) and a solution of 0.25 g NaOH in 1 g water are added. The
25 suspension is stirred at room temperature for 18 hours. The material is washed and separated by centrifugation.

Example 3 (release behavior of fragrances)

- A. Figure 1 gives the release profiles of a yes- (a) and no- (b) immobilized fragrance mixture (ACB 56SE) applied to fabric. The figure clearly shows differing release behavior. The fragrance mixture is immobilized on a carrier material consisting of Paselli acetate having a DS of 3.
- B. Figure 2 gives the release profiles of three immobilized fragrances, viz., Linalool (a), Tilianol Super (b) and Hydroxycitronellal (c). The figure clearly shows that the fragrances exhibit a mutually different release behavior. The fragrances are immobilized on a carrier material consisting of Paselli acetate having a DS of 3.
- C. Figure 3 gives the release profiles of Jasmacyclene, immobilized on different carrier materials consisting of Paselli acetate with a DS of 1.0 (a), 1.7 (b) and 3 (c). The figure clearly shows that the active substance exhibits a lower release rate at a higher degree of substitution.

Example 4 (absorption behavior of carrier material)

- Figure 4 gives the absorption behavior at room temperature for the fragrance Frutalone on a powdered Paselli acetate carrier material with a DS of 3. The amount of carrier material (0.1 gram (a) or 0.5 gram (b)) that is present in the saturated fragrance vapor has an influence on the absorption rate.

Example 5 (adherence of immobilized fragrance to fabric during washing)

- Paselli acetate/Tonalid powder (DS = 3; loading = 33%) is suspended in water in the presence of fabric (cotton). Washing is done at pH 10.4; T = 60°C for 1 hour. Thereupon, the fabric is rinsed with water and dried. The

fragrance present on the fabric is extracted by means of dichloroethane and analyzed by means of gas chromatography. Figure 5 shows the adhesion, i.e. the percentage of the total fragrance that has adhered to the fabric during washing, for a few different modifications and a control experiment with normal, i.e. non-immobilized, Tonalid. The figure shows that the adherence of the fragrance increases due to the above-described immobilization and modifications.

In Figure 5 there are shown, from left to right: *blank* (= control, i.e. non-immobilized Tonalid); *neutral* (= immobilized Tonalid); *anionic* (= immobilized Tonalid, with anionized surface); *cationic* (= immobilized Tonalid, with cationized surface).

Example 6 (solvent evaporation method)

Two grams of acetylated starch (DS = 3) were dissolved, together with 1 gram of the fragrance frutalone, in 10 ml dichloromethane, analogously to the procedure of Example 1. The mixture obtained was emulsified in 200 ml water, utilizing 3% by weight of polyethylene glycol (Mw = 1,000) as emulsifier. An ultrasonic probe was used (50 output; 2 min.). Solvent evaporation was subsequently carried out while stirring (top-stirrer; 500 rpm) for 2 hours at room temperature and ambient pressure. The thus obtained microspheres were collected by centrifugation (27,000 g; 15 min.). Thereafter the particles were dried in air at room temperature and an air humidity of 30% RH. Measurement with GC showed the loading to be 28 wt. %.

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NEW CLAIMS

1. A method for immobilizing a fragrance, wherein a mixture is prepared of the fragrance and a carrier material in a liquid phase, whereafter the liquid phase is converted to a solid phase, the carrier material being an esterified polysaccharide which is esterified to such a degree that it is not or poorly
5 soluble in water with an acetate group, a propionate group, a butyrate group, an alkyl succinate group, in which the alkyl group contains from 1 to 16 carbon atoms, a benzoate group, or an ester group derived from carboxylic acid having from 1 to 18 carbon atoms.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the liquid phase is obtained by
10 mixing and heating the fragrance and the carrier material until a homogeneous liquid mixture is obtained, and wherein the solid phase is obtained by cooling.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the liquid phase is obtained by dissolving or dispersing the fragrance and the carrier material in a solvent, and wherein the solid phase is obtained by evaporating the solvent.
- 15 4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the solvent is selected from the group of acetone, dichloromethane, diethyl ether, ethanol, methanol and isopropanol.
5. A method according to claims 1-4, wherein the liquid phase is emulsified in a liquid and wherein small particles are formed of the immobilized fragrance
20 by evaporating the liquid.
6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the liquid is water.
7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the liquid phase is a double emulsion, which is formed by preparing an oil-in-water emulsion of the fragrance in a first hydrophobic phase and a solution or suspension of the
25 carrier material in an aqueous starch solution or starch dispersion and including this oil-in-water emulsion in a second hydrophobic phase, and wherein the solid phase is formed by crosslinking the starch and removing the second hydrophobic phase.

8. A method for immobilizing a fragrance, wherein the fragrance is contacted in gaseous form with a carrier material in solid phase or a liquid phase, the carrier material being an esterified polysaccharide according to claim 1.
- 5 9. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the esterified polysaccharide is an esterified starch, cellulose, alginate, pectin, or a derivative thereof.
10. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the polysaccharide has a degree of substitution (DS) between 0.05 and a DS
10 corresponding to a virtually complete substitution.
11. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the immobilized fragrance is formed into a powder.
12. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the immobilized fragrance is processed by the use of polymer shaping techniques,
15 such as extrusion, injection molding, pressing or vacuum drawing.
13. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein a physical or chemical modification is performed on the surface of the immobilized fragrance.
14. An immobilized fragrance obtainable by a method according to any one of
20 the preceding claims.
15. Use of an immobilized fragrance according to claim 14 in a detergent, fabric softener, cleaning agent, soap, shampoo, fabric conditioner, fabric spray, ironing aid, tumble dryer addition, optical whitener, odor masking agent, personal care product, fertilizer, food, flavor, pharmaceutical, tissue, cosmetics,
25 soil improvers, plant protection agents, covering layer or coating, paint, ink, in organic synthesis, diagnostics or agriculture.
16. Use of an esterified polysaccharide according to claim 1 for fixing or immobilizing a fragrance.
17. Use according to claim 16 for reducing an odor.

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[NL/NL]; Molenweg 97, NL-3781 VC Voorthuizen (NL).

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(74) Agent: PRINS, A., W.; Vereenigde, Nieuwe Parklaan 97,
NL-2587 BN The Hague (NL).

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1012933 30 August 1999 (30.08.1999) NL(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): PFW
AROMA CHEMICALS B.V. [NL/NL]; Nijverheidsweg
60, NL-3771 ME Barneveld (NL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): VAN SCHIJNDEL,
Renée, Josie, Gide [NL/NL]; Schaepmanstraat 117,
NL-6702 AS Wageningen (NL). SIVASLIGIL, Dogan,
Sahin [NL/NL]; Wouwermanstraat 139, NL-2525 KR
The Hague (NL). WESTERWEELE, Eddie [NL/NL];
Dorpsstraat 98, NL-6871 AP Renkum (NL). VAN SOEST,
Jeroen, Johannes, Gerardus [NL/NL]; Broekemalaan 2,(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
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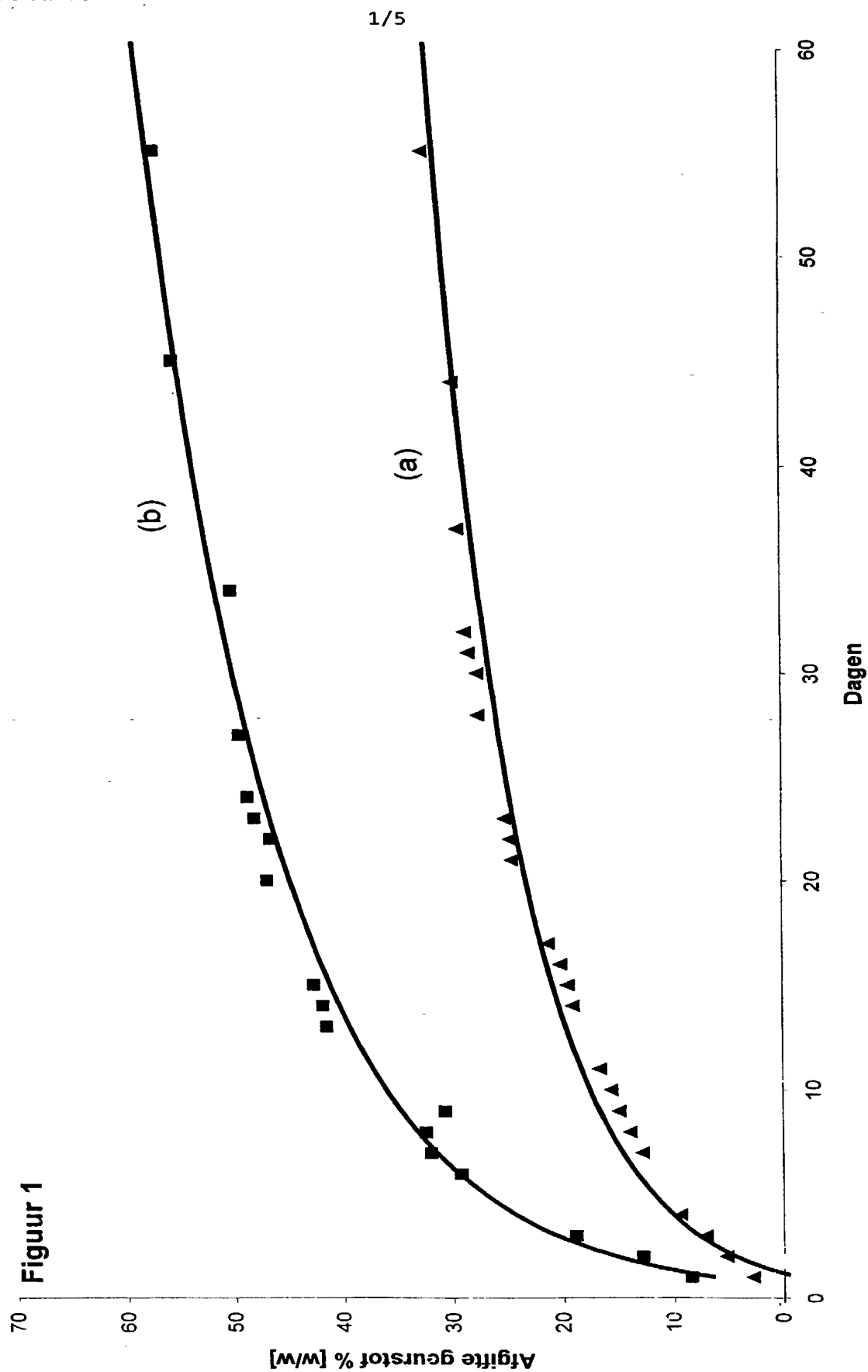
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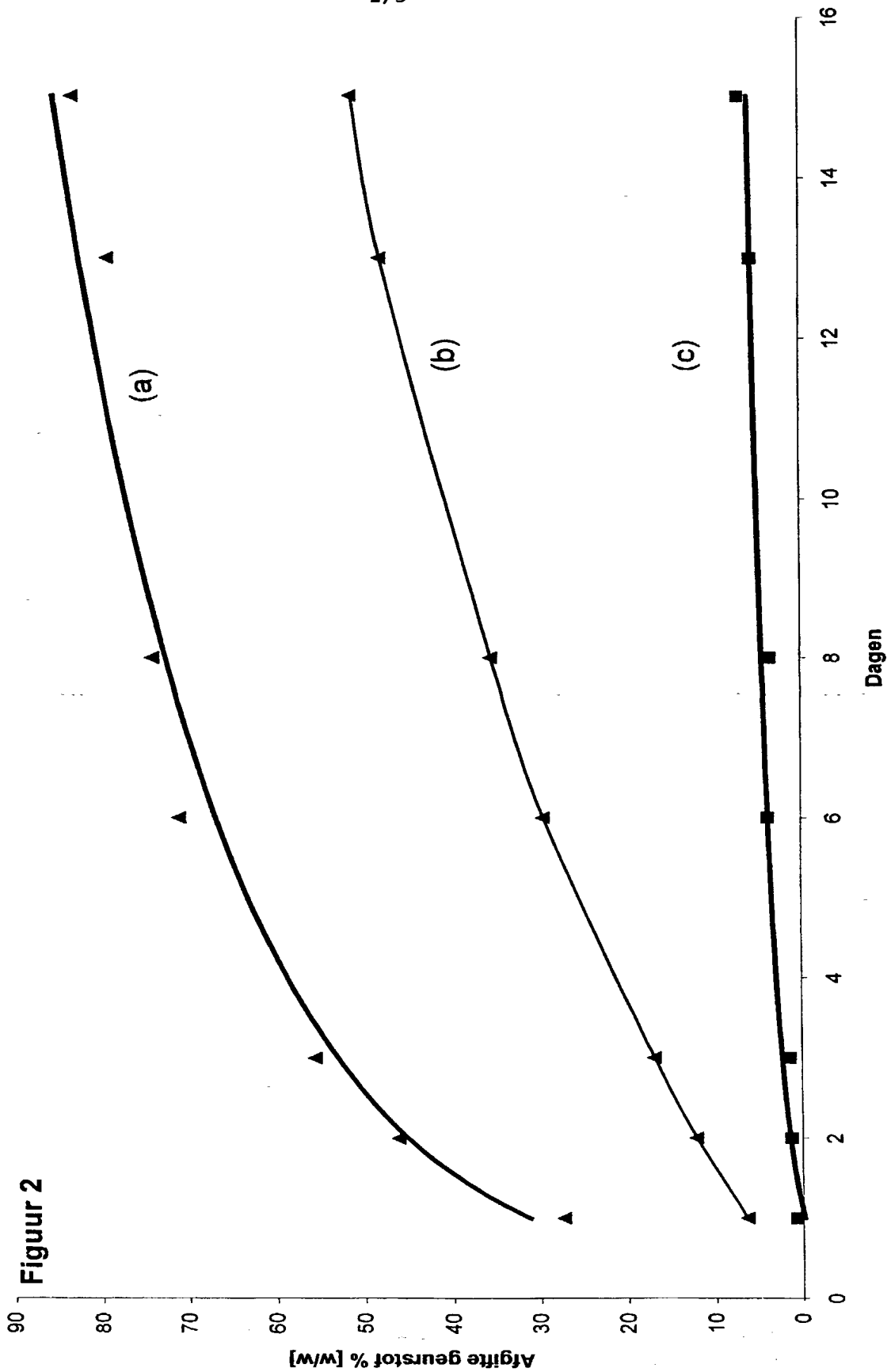
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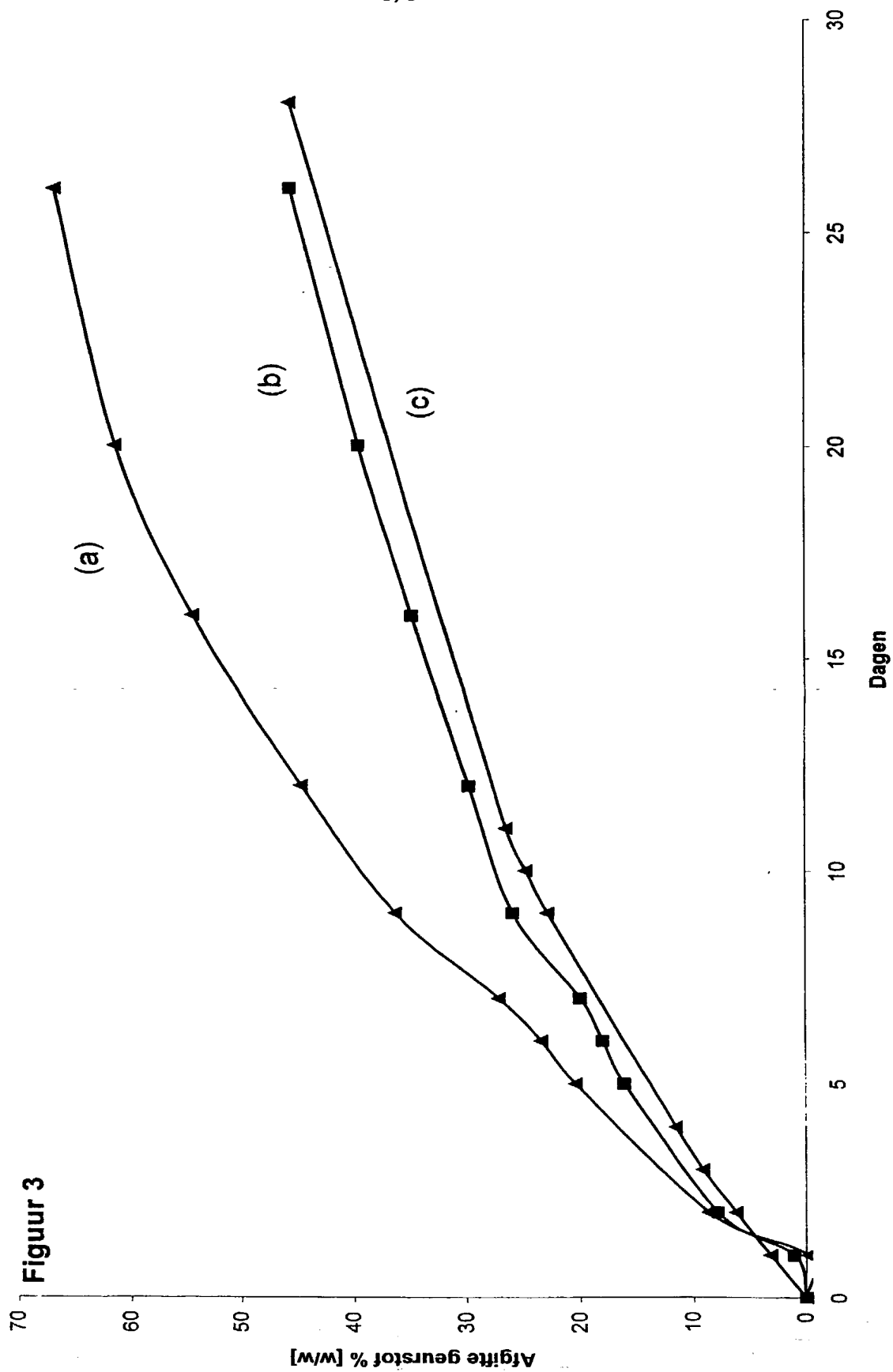
(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method for immobilizing an active substance, wherein a mixture is prepared of the active substance and a carrier material in a liquid phase, whereafter the liquid phase is converted to a solid phase, the carrier material being an esterified polysaccharide. The invention further relates to the use of an esterified polysaccharide for fixing or immobilizing active substances, in particular odorous substances.

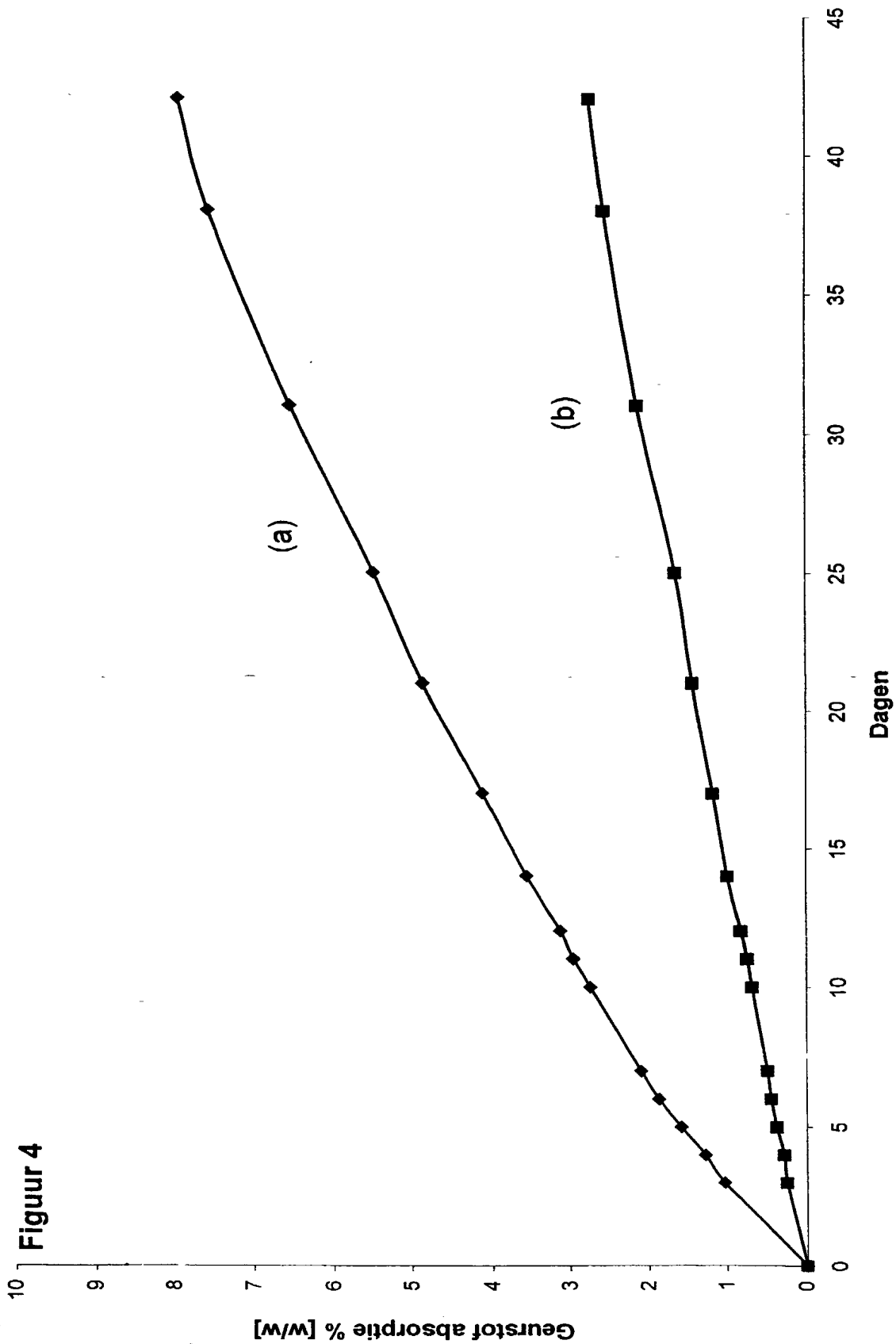


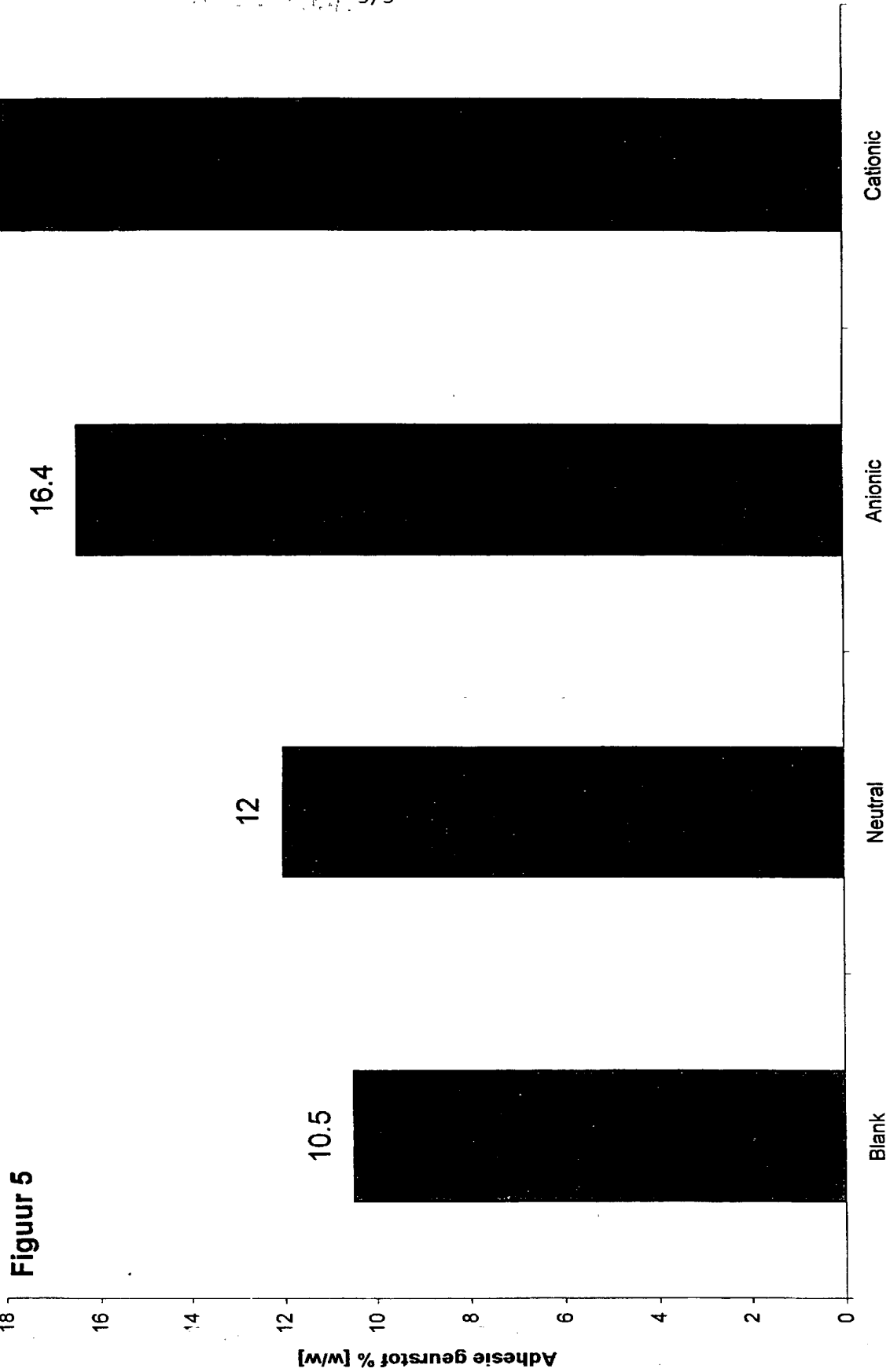
Figuur 1

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**Declaration and Power of Attorney Patent Application
(Design or Utility)**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:
'Immobilization of active substances'

the specification of which

- ☐ is attached hereto
☒ was filed on February 25, 2002 as application serial no. 10/069,551
and or PCT International Application number PCT/NL00/00603 and was amended
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I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information know to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or 35 U.S.C. §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 35 U.S.C. §365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate of PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)		
Number 1012933	Country NL	Day/Month/Year Filed 30-08-1999
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Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed

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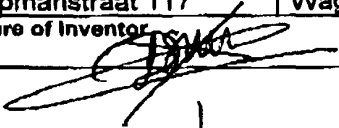
As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Attorney	Registration Number
Charles R. Hoffmann	<u>24,102</u>
Ronald J. Baron	<u>29,281</u>
Gerald T. Bodner	<u>30,449</u>
A. Thomas Kammer	<u>28,226</u>
Irving N. Feit	<u>28,601</u>
Alan M. Sack	<u>31,874</u>
Algis Anilionis	<u>36,995</u>
Gregory W. Bachmann	<u>41,593</u>
Anthony E. Bennett	<u>40,910</u>
James F. Harrington	<u>P-44,741</u>
Glenn T. Henneberger	<u>36,074</u>
Richard LaCava	<u>41,135</u>
Kevin E. McDermott	<u>35,946</u>
Robert C. Morriss	<u>42,910</u>
Samir R. Patel	<u>P-44,998</u>
R. Glenn Schroeder	<u>34,720</u>
Susan A. Sipos	<u>43,128</u>
Roderick S.W. Turner	<u>38,639</u>
Steven T. Zuschlag	<u>43,309</u>

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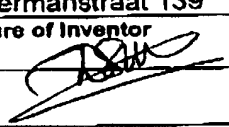
Please direct all correspondence in this case to at the address indicated below:

Ronald J. Baron
Hoffman & Baron, L.L.P.
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791

Full Name of Sole or First Inventor		
Family Name <u>van Schijndel</u>	First Given Name <u>Renée</u>	Second Given Name <u>Josie, G.</u>
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence <u>Wageningen</u>	State or Country of Residence <u>The Netherlands</u>	Country of Citizenship <u>The Netherlands</u>
Post Office Address		
Street Address <u>Schaepmanstraat 117</u>	City <u>Wageningen</u>	State & Zip Code or Country <u>6702 AS</u>
Signature of Inventor 		Date <u>2/5/2002</u>

L 2.0.2.

200

Full Name of Second Inventor, if any		
Family Name Sivasligil	First Given Name Dogan	Second Given Name Sahin
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence The Hague	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Wouwermanstraat 139	City The Hague	State & Zip Code or Country 2525 KR
Signature of Inventor 		Date 2/05/2002

Full Name of Third Inventor, if any		
Family Name Westerweele	First Given Name Eddie	Second Given Name
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Renkum	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Dorpsstraat 98	City Renkum	State & Zip Code or Country 6871 AP
Signature of Inventor		Date

Full Name of Fourth Inventor, if any		
Family Name van Soest	First Given Name Jeroen	Second Given Name Johannes, G.
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Wageningen	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Broekemalaan 2	City Wageningen	State & Zip Code or Country 6703 GL
Signature of Inventor		Date

Full Name of Fifth Inventor, if any		
Family Name Lenselink	First Given Name Willem	Second Given Name
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Voorthuizen	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Molenweg 97	City Voorthuizen	State & Zip Code or Country 3781 VC
Signature of Inventor		Date

Full Name of Second Inventor, if any		
Family Name Sivasligil	First Given Name Dogan	Second Given Name Sahin
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence The Hague	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Wouwermanstraat 139	City The Hague	State & Zip Code or Country 2525 KR
Signature of Inventor		Date

Full Name of Third Inventor, if any		
Family Name Westerweele	First Given Name Eddie	Second Given Name
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Renkum	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Dorpsstraat 98	City Renkum	State & Zip Code or Country 6871 AP
Signature of Inventor		Date April 15, 2002

Full Name of Fourth Inventor, if any		
Family Name van Soest	First Given Name Jeroen	Second Given Name Johannes, G.
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Wageningen	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Broekemalaan 2	City Wageningen	State & Zip Code or Country 6703 GL
Signature of Inventor		Date

Full Name of Fifth Inventor, if any		
Family Name Lenselink	First Given Name Willem	Second Given Name
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Voorthuizen	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Molenweg 97	City Voorthuizen	State & Zip Code or Country 3781 VC
Signature of Inventor		Date

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Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence The Hague	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Wouwermanstraat 139	City The Hague	State & Zip Code or Country 2525 KR
Signature of Inventor		Date

Full Name of Third Inventor, if any		
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Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Renkum	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Dorpsstraat 98	City Renkum	State & Zip Code or Country 6871 AP
Signature of Inventor		Date

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Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Wageningen	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Broekemalaan 2	City Wageningen	State & Zip Code or Country 6703 GL
Signature of Inventor		Date 10 04 2002

Full Name of Fifth Inventor, if any		
Family Name Lenselink	First Given Name Willem	Second Given Name
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Voorthuizen	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Molenweg 97	City Voorthuizen	State & Zip Code or Country 3781 VC
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I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Prior Provisional Application(s)	
Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filing Date
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Prior U.S. or International Application(s)		
Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filed	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filed	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filed	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)

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Full Name of Second Inventor, if any		
Family Name Sivasligil	First Given Name Dogan	Second Given Name Sahin
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence The Hague	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Wouwermanstraat 139	City The Hague	State & Zip Code or Country 2525 KR
Signature of Inventor		Date

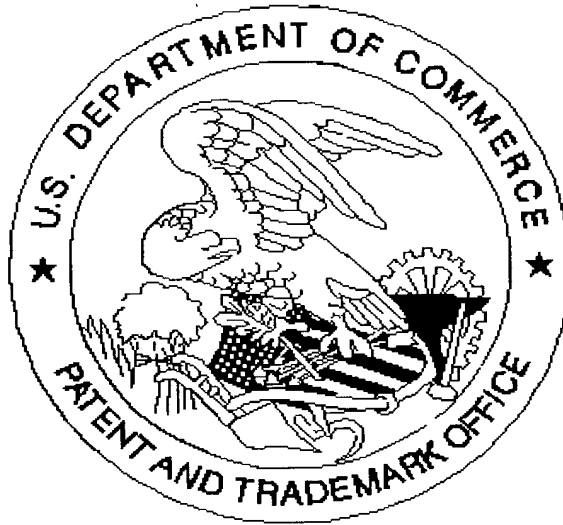
Full Name of Third Inventor, if any		
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City of Residence Renkum	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Dorpsstraat 98	City Renkum	State & Zip Code or Country 6871 AP
Signature of Inventor		Date

Full Name of Fourth Inventor, if any		
Family Name van Soest	First Given Name Jeroen	Second Given Name Johannes, G.
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Wageningen	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Broekemalaan 2	City Wageningen	State & Zip Code or Country 6703 GL
Signature of Inventor		Date

Full Name of Fifth Inventor, if any		
Family Name Lenselink	First Given Name Willem	Second Given Name
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Voorthuizen	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Molenweg 97	City Voorthuizen	State & Zip Code or Country 3781 VC
Signature of Inventor		Date March 31, 2002

Full Name of Sixth Inventor, if any		
Family Name van Manen	First Given Name Anton	Second Given Name Pieter, J.
Residence and Citizenship		
City of Residence Putten	State or Country of Residence The Netherlands	Country of Citizenship The Netherlands
Post Office Address		
Street Address Bruno Fabriciusstraat 44	City Putten	State & Zip Code or Country 3881 CM
Signature of Inventor		Date March 29, 2002

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